

# **General Application Instructions and Checklist**

## ***Getting Started***

All interested applicants should first thoroughly review the Notice Inviting Applications (NIA) for FY 2015, published in the Federal Register, before beginning to prepare an application. The NIA will orient applicants with the AENP program by providing the following information:

- ✓ Background information and purpose of the program;
- ✓ Eligibility requirements;
- ✓ Competitive Preference Priorities;
- ✓ Invitational Priority
- ✓ Selection Criteria and assigned points;
- ✓ Instructions on how to electronically submit the application.

Applicants should pay close attention to the Selection Criteria as applications will be evaluated and scored against these criteria.

## ***Application Organization***

It is recommended that your application be organized in the following manner and include the following parts in order to expedite the review process:

1. **Title Page.** Use Application for Federal Assistance --SF 424.
2. **Table of Contents.** Include a one-page table of contents with page references.
3. **Abstract.** Include the name and address of your organization and the name, phone number and e-mail address of the contact person for the application. The abstract should not exceed one double-spaced page in 12-point font or no smaller than 10 pitch (characters per inch) and should use language that will be understood by a range of audiences. For all projects, include the project title (if applicable), goals and expected outcomes. Include population to be served, as appropriate.
4. **Project Narrative.** Applications should be concise and clearly written. We suggest you limit your application narrative to no more than 50 double-spaced pages printed in 12-point font or no smaller than 10 pitch (characters per inch). The suggested page limitation does not include the title page (Application for Federal Assistance --SF 424), one-page abstract, the budget summary form - (Form ED 524), and the budget narrative, any resumes, the GEPA statement, or the assurances and certifications.
  - a. Before preparing the narrative, applicants should review the Notice Inviting Applications, and the priorities for specific guidance or requirements.

- b. Applications will be evaluated according to the selection criteria and priorities specified in the Notice Inviting Applications in this package. We suggest you organize your narrative according to the selection criteria, the absolute and competitive preference priorities, and the invitational priority. Clear headings should be provided to indicate an applicant's response to the priorities.
5. **Budget.** An applicant may request funding for up to three years. Use the ED 524 form, or a suitable facsimile, to present a complete budget summary for each year you are requesting funding.
6. **Budget Narrative.** Please provide a budget narrative that supports the expenditures listed on the ED 524 form, using the same budget categories. The grantee is subject to the audit requirements contained in the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 (31 USC 7501-7507) and revised OMB Circular A-133. Remember to include the cost of this audit in your budget. For further information on this requirement, refer to Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, available on-line at:  
[http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/a133\\_compliance\\_supplement\\_2011](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/a133_compliance_supplement_2011)
7. **Other Attachments Form.** Should include the resumes of key project personnel. It is recommended that you do not exceed three pages per resume for the Project Director and other key Personnel. You may include supporting documentation in the appendix section as appropriate.
8. **Assurances and Certifications.** The following forms must be submitted with your application. Templates and instructions for the Assurances and Certifications may be accessed at: <http://www2.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/appforms/appforms.html>.
  - a. Application for Federal Assistance (SF 424)\*
  - b. ED Supplemental Information for SF 424
  - c. U.S. Department of Education Budget Information Non-Construction Programs (ED 524)
  - d. General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) Requirements (ED GEPA 427 Form)
  - e. Assurances – Non-Construction Programs (SF 424B Form)
  - f. Certification Regarding Lobbying (ED 80-0013 Form)
  - g. Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (Standard Form LLL) (if applicable)\*\*
    - i. The Application for Federal Assistance (SF 424) must be signed by the Authorizing Organization Representative (AOR). In addition, applicants should clearly indicate in item #5 the CFDA number of the program (84.351F) and the title of the program – Arts in Education National Program .
    - ii. The Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (Standard Form LLL) must be completed if your organization pays an individual or organization to lobby for you (see instructions on this form for definition of "lobbying").

- iii. According to Certifications Regarding Lobbying cited above, no funds from this grant may be used to pay for lobby activities.

9. **Statement under Section 427 of GEPA.** All applicants must include a statement in their application to address this provision in order to receive funding under this program.

- a. Section 427 requires each applicant to include in its application a description of the steps the applicant proposes to take to ensure equitable access to, and participation in, its federally-assisted program for students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries with special needs. This provision allows applicants discretion in developing the required description. The statute highlights six barriers that can impede equitable access or participation: gender, race, national origin, color, disability, or age. Based on local circumstances, you should determine whether these or other barriers may prevent your students, teachers, etc. from access or participation in the federally-funded project or activity. The description of steps to be taken to overcome these barriers need not be lengthy; you should provide a clear and succinct description of how you plan to address those barriers that are applicable in your circumstances.
- b. A general statement of an applicant's nondiscriminatory hiring policy is not sufficient to meet this requirement. Applicants must identify potential barriers and explain steps they will take to overcome these barriers.

***Application Submission***

All AENP applications must be received on or before **April 13, 2015 by 4:30 p.m. EST.**

It is **mandatory** for applicants to use Grants.gov. We strongly encourage you to familiarize yourself with and register for the Grants.gov system and submit early. Only applications submitted in a timely manner using Grants.gov will be considered for funding. Late applications will not be accepted. The Department is required to enforce the established deadline to ensure fairness to all applications.

We strongly recommend that you do not wait until the last day to submit your application. The time it takes to upload the narratives for your application will vary depending on a number of factors including the size of the files and the speed of your Internet connection. If you attempt to submit your application after **4:30 p.m. EST** on the deadline date, the Grants.gov system will not accept your application.

NOTE: The U.S. Department of Education grant application deadline is **4:30 p.m. EST**. No changes or additions to an application will be accepted after the deadline date and time.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE SF-424

This is a standard form required for use as a cover sheet for submission of pre-applications and applications and related information under discretionary programs. Some of the items are required and some are optional at the discretion of the applicant or the federal agency (agency). Required fields on the form are identified with an asterisk (\*) and are also specified as "Required" in the instructions below. In addition to these instructions, applicants must consult agency instructions to determine other specific requirements.

Item	Entry:	Item	Entry:
1.	<b>Type of Submission:</b> (Required) Select one type of submission in accordance with agency instructions. • Pre-application • Application • Changed/Corrected Application – Check if this submission is to change or correct a previously submitted application. Unless requested by the agency, applicants may not use this form to submit changes after the closing date.	10.	<b>Name Of Federal Agency:</b> (Required) Enter the name of the federal agency from which assistance is being requested with this application.
2.	<b>Type of Application:</b> (Required) Select one type of application in accordance with agency instructions.  • New – An application that is being submitted to an agency for the first time. • Continuation - An extension for an additional funding/budget period for a project with a projected completion date. This can include renewals. • Revision - Any change in the federal government's financial obligation or contingent liability from an existing obligation. If a revision, enter the appropriate letter(s). More than one may be selected. If "Other" is selected, please specify in text box provided.  A. Increase Award                      D. Decrease Duration B. Decrease Award                      E. Other (specify) C. Increase Duration	11.	<b>Catalog Of Federal Domestic Assistance Number/Title:</b> Enter the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number and title of the program under which assistance is requested, as found in the program announcement, if applicable.
3.	<b>Date Received:</b> Leave this field blank. This date will be assigned by the Federal agency.	12.	<b>Funding Opportunity Number/Title:</b> (Required) Enter the Funding Opportunity Number (FON) and title of the opportunity under which assistance is requested, as found in the program announcement.
4.	<b>Applicant Identifier:</b> Enter the entity identifier assigned by the Federal agency, if any, or the applicant's control number if applicable.	13.	<b>Competition Identification Number/Title:</b> Enter the competition identification number and title of the competition under which assistance is requested, if applicable.
5a.	<b>Federal Entity Identifier:</b> Enter the number assigned to your organization by the federal agency, if any.	14.	<b>Areas Affected By Project:</b> This data element is intended for use only by programs for which the area(s) affected are likely to be different than the place(s) of performance reported on the SF-424 Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form. Add attachment to enter additional areas, if needed.
5b.	<b>Federal Award Identifier:</b> For new applications, enter NA. For a continuation or revision to an existing award, enter the previously assigned federal award identifier number. If a changed/corrected application, enter the federal identifier in accordance with agency instructions.	15.	<b>Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:</b> (Required) Enter a brief descriptive title of the project. If appropriate, attach a map showing project location (e.g., construction or real property projects). For pre-applications, attach a summary description of the project.
6.	<b>Date Received by State:</b> Leave this field blank. This date will be assigned by the state, if applicable.		
7.	<b>State Application Identifier:</b> Leave this field blank. This identifier will be assigned by the state, if applicable.	16.	<b>Congressional Districts Of:</b> 16a. (Required) Enter the applicant's congressional district. 16b. Enter all district(s) affected by the program or project. Enter in the format: 2 characters state abbreviation – 3 characters district number, e.g., CA-005 for California 5th district, CA-012 for California 12 district, NC-103 for North Carolina's 103 district. If all congressional districts in a state are affected, enter "all" for the district number, e.g., MD-all for all congressional districts in Maryland. If nationwide, i.e. all districts within all states are affected, enter US-all. If the program/project is outside the US, enter 00-000. This optional data element is intended for use only by programs for which the area(s) affected are likely to be different than place(s) of performance reported on the SF-424 Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form. Attach an additional list of program/project congressional districts, if needed.
8.	<b>Applicant Information:</b> Enter the following in accordance with agency instructions:		
	<b>a. Legal Name:</b> (Required) Enter the legal name of applicant that will undertake the assistance activity. This is the organization that has registered with the Central Contractor Registry (CCR). Information on registering with CCR may be obtained by visiting <a href="http://www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a> .	17.	<b>Proposed Project Start and End Dates:</b> (Required) Enter the proposed start date and end date of the project.
	<b>b. Employer/Taxpayer Number (EIN/TIN):</b> (Required) Enter the employer or taxpayer identification number (EIN or TIN) as assigned by the Internal Revenue Service. If your organization is not in the US, enter 44-4444444.	18.	<b>Estimated Funding:</b> (Required) Enter the amount requested, or to be contributed during the first funding/budget period by each contributor. Value of in-kind contributions should be included on appropriate lines, as applicable. If the action will result in a dollar change to an existing award, indicate only the amount of the change. For decreases, enclose the amounts in parentheses.

	<b>c. Organizational DUNS:</b> (Required) Enter the organization's DUNS or DUNS+4 number received from Dun and Bradstreet. Information on obtaining a DUNS number may be obtained by visiting <a href="http://www.Grants.gov">www.Grants.gov</a> .	19.	<b>Is Application Subject to Review by State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?</b> (Required) Applicants should contact the State Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for Federal Executive Order 12372 to determine whether the application is subject to the State intergovernmental review process. Select the appropriate box. If "a." is selected, enter the date the application was submitted to the State.																								
	<b>d. Address:</b> Enter address: Street 1 (Required); city (Required); County/Parish, State (Required if country is US), Province, Country (Required), 9-digit zip/postal code (Required if country US).	20.	<b>Is the Applicant Delinquent on any Federal Debt?</b> (Required) Select the appropriate box. This question applies to the applicant organization, not the person who signs as the authorized representative. Categories of federal debt include; but, may not be limited to: delinquent audit disallowances, loans and taxes. If yes, include an explanation in an attachment.																								
	<b>e. Organizational Unit:</b> Enter the name of the primary organizational unit, department or division that will undertake the assistance activity.  <b>f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:</b> Enter the first and last name (Required); prefix, middle name, suffix, title. Enter organizational affiliation if affiliated with an organization other than that in 7.a. Telephone number and email (Required); fax number.	21.	<b>Authorized Representative:</b> To be signed and dated by the authorized representative of the applicant organization. Enter the first and last name (Required); prefix, middle name, suffix. Enter title, telephone number, email (Required); and fax number. A copy of the governing body's authorization for you to sign this application as the official representative must be on file in the applicant's office. (Certain federal agencies may require that this authorization be submitted as part of the application.)																								
9.	Type of Applicant: (Required) Select up to three applicant type(s) in accordance with agency instructions.  <table border="0"> <tr> <td>A. State Government</td> <td>M. Nonprofit</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B. County Government</td> <td>N. Private Institution of Higher Education</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C. City or Township Government</td> <td>O. Individual</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D. Special District Government</td> <td>P. For-Profit Organization (Other than Small Business)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E. Regional Organization</td> <td>Q. Small Business</td> </tr> <tr> <td>F. U.S. Territory or Possession</td> <td>R. Hispanic-serving Institution</td> </tr> <tr> <td>G. Independent School District</td> <td>S. Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>H. Public/State Controlled Institution of Higher Education</td> <td>T. Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities (TCCUs)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>I. Indian/Native American Tribal Government (Federally Recognized)</td> <td>U. Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions</td> </tr> <tr> <td>J. Indian/Native American Tribal Government (Other than Federally Recognized)</td> <td>V. Non-US Entity</td> </tr> <tr> <td>K. Indian/Native American Tribally Designated Organization</td> <td>W. Other (specify)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>L. Public/Indian Housing Authority</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	A. State Government	M. Nonprofit	B. County Government	N. Private Institution of Higher Education	C. City or Township Government	O. Individual	D. Special District Government	P. For-Profit Organization (Other than Small Business)	E. Regional Organization	Q. Small Business	F. U.S. Territory or Possession	R. Hispanic-serving Institution	G. Independent School District	S. Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)	H. Public/State Controlled Institution of Higher Education	T. Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities (TCCUs)	I. Indian/Native American Tribal Government (Federally Recognized)	U. Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions	J. Indian/Native American Tribal Government (Other than Federally Recognized)	V. Non-US Entity	K. Indian/Native American Tribally Designated Organization	W. Other (specify)	L. Public/Indian Housing Authority			
A. State Government	M. Nonprofit																										
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L. Public/Indian Housing Authority																											

**[U.S Department of Education note:** As of spring, 2010, the FON discussed in Block 12 of the instructions can be found via the following URL: [http://www.grants.gov/applicants/find\\_grant\\_opportunities.jsp](http://www.grants.gov/applicants/find_grant_opportunities.jsp).]

## Instructions for U.S. Department of Education Supplemental Information for the SF-424

**1. Project Director.** Name, address, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail address of the person to be contacted on matters involving this application. Items marked with an asterisk (\*) are mandatory.

**2. Novice Applicant.** Check “Yes” if you meet the definition for novice applicants specified in the regulations in 34 CFR 75.225 and included on the attached page entitled “Definitions for U.S. Department of Education Supplemental Information for the SF-424”). By checking “Yes” the applicant certifies that it meets these novice applicant requirements. Check “No” if you do not meet the definition for novice applicants.

This novice applicant information will be used by ED to: 1) determine the amount and type of technical assistance that a novice might need, if funded, and 2) determine novice applicant eligibility in discretionary grant competitions that give special consideration to novice applications. Certain ED discretionary grant programs give special consideration to novice applications, either by establishing a special competition for novice applicants or by giving competitive preference to novice applicants under the procedures in 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2). If special consideration is being given to novice applications under a particular discretionary grant competition, the application notice for the competition published in the Federal Register will specify this information

**3. Human Subjects Research.** (See I. A. “Definitions” in attached page entitled “Definitions for U.S. Department of Education Supplemental Information for the SF-424.”)

**3a. If Not Human Subjects Research.** Check “No” if research activities involving human subjects are not planned at any time during the proposed project period. The remaining parts of Item 3 are then not applicable.

**3a. If Human Subjects Research.** Check “Yes” if research activities involving human subjects are planned at any time during the proposed project period, either at the applicant organization or at any other performance site or collaborating institution. Check “Yes” even if the research is exempt from the regulations for the protection of human subjects. (See I. B. “Exemptions” in attached page entitled “Definitions for U.S. Department of Education Supplemental Information for SF-424.”)

**3b. If Human Subjects Research is Exempt from the Human Subjects Regulations.** Check “Yes” if all the research activities proposed are designated to be exempt from the regulations. Check the exemption number(s) corresponding to one or more of the six exemption categories listed in I. B. “Exemptions.” In addition, follow the instructions in II. A. “Exempt Research Narrative” in the attached page entitled “Definitions for U.S. Department of Education Supplemental Information for the SF-424.”

**3b. If Human Subjects Research is Not Exempt from Human Subjects Regulations.** Check “No” if some or all of the planned research activities are covered (not exempt). In addition, follow the instructions in II. B. “Nonexempt Research Narrative” in the attached page entitled “Definitions for U.S. Department of Education Supplemental Information for the SF-424.”

**3b. Human Subjects Assurance Number.** If the applicant has an approved Federal Wide Assurance (FWA) on file with the Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, that covers the specific activity, insert the number in the space provided. (A list of current FWAs is available at: <http://ohrp.cit.nih.gov/search/assearch.asp#ASUR>) If the applicant does not have an approved assurance on file with OHRP, enter “None.” In this case, the applicant, by signature on the SF-424, is declaring that it will comply with 34 CFR 97 and proceed to obtain the human subjects assurance upon request by the designated ED official. If the application is recommended/selected for funding, the designated ED official will request that the applicant obtain the assurance within 30 days after the specific formal request.

**3c.** If applicable, please attach your “Exempt Research” or “Nonexempt Research” narrative to your submission of the U.S Department of Education Supplemental Information for the SF-424 form as instructed in item II, “Instructions for Exempt and Nonexempt Human Subjects Research Narratives” in the attached page entitled “Definitions for U.S. Department of Education Supplemental Information for the SF-424.”

**Note about Institutional Review Board Approval.** ED does not require certification of Institutional Review Board approval with the application. However, if an application that involves non-exempt human subjects research is recommended/selected for funding, the designated ED official will request that the applicant obtain and send the certification to ED within 30 days after the formal request.

**No covered human subjects research can be conducted until the study has ED clearance for protection of human subjects in research.**

**Paperwork Burden Statement.** According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1894-0007. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average between 15 and 45 minutes per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed and complete and review the information collection. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202-0170. If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form write directly to: (insert program office), U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202.

## Definitions for U.S. Department of Education Supplemental Information for the SF-424

### Definitions:

#### Novice Applicant (See 34 CFR 75.225)

For discretionary grant programs, novice applicant means any applicant for a grant from ED that—

- Has never received a grant or subgrant under the program from which it seeks funding;
- Has never been a member of a group application, submitted in accordance with 34 CFR 75.127-75.129, that received a grant under the program from which it seeks funding; and
- Has not had an active discretionary grant from the Federal government in the five years before the deadline date for applications under the program. For the purposes of this requirement, a grant is active until the end of the grant's project or funding period, including any extensions of those periods that extend the grantee's authority to obligate funds.

In the case of a group application submitted in accordance with 34 CFR 75.127-75.129, a group includes only parties that meet the requirements listed above.

### PROTECTION OF HUMAN SUBJECTS IN RESEARCH

#### I. Definitions and Exemptions

##### A. Definitions.

A research activity involves human subjects if the activity is research, as defined in the Department's regulations, and the research activity will involve use of human subjects, as defined in the regulations.

##### —Research

The ED Regulations for the Protection of Human Subjects, Title 34, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 97, define research as “a systematic investigation, including research development, testing and evaluation, designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge. Activities which meet this definition constitute research whether or not they are conducted or supported under a program that is considered research for other purposes. For example, some demonstration and service programs may include research activities.

##### —Human Subject

The regulations define human subject as “a living individual about whom an investigator (whether professional or student) conducting research obtains (1) data through intervention or interaction with the individual, or (2) identifiable private information.” *(1) If an activity involves obtaining information about a living person by manipulating that person or that person's environment, as might occur when a new instructional technique is tested, or by communicating or interacting with the individual, as occurs with surveys and interviews, the definition of human subject is met. (2) If an activity involves obtaining private information about a living person in such a way that the information can be **directly or indirectly** linked to that individual, the definition of human subject is met* [Private information includes information about behavior that occurs in a context in which an individual can reasonably expect that no observation or recording is taking place, and information which has been provided for specific purposes by an individual and which the individual can reasonably expect will not be made public (for example, a school health record).]

##### B. Exemptions.

Research activities in which the **only** involvement of human subjects will be in one or more of the following six categories of **exemptions** are not covered by the regulations:

(1) Research conducted in established or commonly accepted educational settings, involving normal educational practices, such as (a) research on regular and special education instructional strategies, or (b) research on the effectiveness of or the comparison among instructional techniques, curricula, or classroom management methods. ***If an educational practice is being introduced to the site and is not widely used for similar populations, it is not covered by this exemption.***

(2) Research involving the use of educational tests (cognitive, diagnostic, aptitude, achievement), survey procedures, interview procedures or observation of public behavior, unless: (a) information obtained is recorded in such a manner that human subjects can be identified, directly or through identifiers linked to the subjects; and (b) any disclosure of the human subjects' responses outside the research could reasonably place the subjects at risk of criminal or civil liability or be damaging to the subjects' financial standing, employability, or reputation. ***If the subjects are children, exemption 2 applies only to research involving educational tests and observations of public behavior when the investigator(s) do not participate in the activities being observed.***

***Exemption 2 does not apply if children are surveyed or interviewed or if the research involves observation of public behavior and the investigator(s) participate in the activities being observed.*** [Children are defined as persons who have not attained the legal age for consent to treatments or procedures

involved in the research, under the applicable law or jurisdiction in which the research will be conducted.]

(3) Research involving the use of educational tests (cognitive, diagnostic, aptitude, achievement), survey procedures, interview procedures or observation of public behavior that is not exempt under section (2) above, if the human subjects are elected or appointed public officials or candidates for public office; or federal statute(s) require(s) without exception that the confidentiality of the personally identifiable information will be maintained throughout the research and thereafter.

(4) Research involving the collection or study of existing data, documents, records, pathological specimens, or diagnostic specimens, if these sources are publicly available or if the information is recorded by the investigator in a manner that subjects cannot be identified, directly or through identifiers linked to the subjects. *[This exemption applies only to retrospective studies using data collected before the initiation of the research.]*

(5) Research and demonstration projects which are conducted by or subject to the approval of department or agency heads, and which are designed to study, evaluate, or otherwise examine: (a) public benefit or service programs; (b) procedures for obtaining benefits or services under those programs; (c) possible changes in or alternatives to those programs or procedures; or (d) possible changes in methods or levels of payment for benefits or services under those programs. *[The standards of this exemption are rarely met because it was designed to apply only to specific research conducted by HHS at the time the regulations were established. We will strictly construe this exemption because it was not intended to apply to ED research.]*

(6) Taste and food quality evaluation and consumer acceptance studies, (a) if wholesome foods without additives are consumed or (b) if a food is consumed that contains a food ingredient at or below the level and for a use found to be safe, or agricultural chemical or environmental contaminant at or below the level found to be safe, by the Food and Drug Administration or approved by the Environmental Protection Agency or the Food Safety and Inspection Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

## **II. Instructions for Exempt and Nonexempt Human Subjects Research Narratives**

If the applicant marked “Yes” for Item 3.b. of the U.S. Department of Education Supplemental Information for the SF-424, the applicant must attach a human subjects “exempt research” or “nonexempt research” narrative to the U.S. Department of Education Supplemental Information for the SF-424 form. If you have multiple projects and need to provide more than one narrative, be sure to label each set of responses as to the project they address.

### **A. Exempt Research Narrative.**

If you marked “Yes” for item 3.b. and designated exemption numbers(s), attach the “exempt research” narrative to the U.S. Department of Education Supplemental Information for the SF-424. The narrative must contain sufficient information about the involvement of human subjects in the proposed research to allow a determination by ED that the designated exemption(s) are appropriate. The narrative must be succinct.

### **B. Nonexempt Research Narrative.**

If you marked “No” for item 3.b. you must attach the “nonexempt research” narrative to the U.S. Department of Education Supplemental Information for the SF-424. The narrative must address the following seven points. Although no specific page limitation applies to this section of the application, be succinct.

#### **(1) Human Subjects Involvement and Characteristics:**

Provide a detailed description of the proposed involvement of human subjects. Describe the characteristics of the subject population, including their anticipated number, age range, and health status. Identify the criteria for inclusion or exclusion of any subpopulation. Explain the rationale for the involvement of special classes of subjects, such as children, children with disabilities, adults with disabilities, persons with mental disabilities, pregnant women, prisoners, institutionalized individuals, or others who are likely to be vulnerable

**(2) Sources of Materials:** Identify the sources of research material obtained from individually identifiable living human subjects in the form of specimens, records, or data. Indicate whether the material or data will be obtained specifically for research purposes or whether use will be made of existing specimens, records, or data.

**(3) Recruitment and Informed Consent:** Describe plans for the recruitment of subjects and the consent procedures to be followed. Include the circumstances under which consent will be sought and obtained, who will seek it, the nature of the information to be provided to prospective subjects, and the method of documenting consent. State if the Institutional Review Board (IRB) has authorized a modification or waiver of the elements of consent or the requirement for documentation of consent.

**(4) Potential Risks:** Describe potential risks (physical, psychological, social, legal, or other) and assess their likelihood and seriousness. Where appropriate, describe alternative treatments and procedures that might be advantageous to the subjects.

**(5) Protection Against Risk:** Describe the procedures for protecting against or minimizing potential risks, including risks to confidentiality, and assess their likely effectiveness. Where appropriate, discuss provisions for ensuring necessary medical or professional intervention in the event of adverse effects to the subjects. Also, where appropriate, describe the provisions for monitoring the data collected to ensure the safety of the subjects.

(6) **Importance of the Knowledge to be Gained:** Discuss the importance of the knowledge gained or to be gained as a result of the proposed research. Discuss why the risks to subjects are reasonable in relation to the anticipated benefits to subjects and in relation to the importance of the knowledge that may reasonably be expected to result.

(7) **Collaborating Site(s):** If research involving human subjects will take place at collaborating site(s) or other performance site(s), name the sites and briefly describe their involvement or role in the research.

*Copies of the Department of Education's Regulations for the Protection of Human Subjects, 34 CFR Part 97 and other pertinent materials on the protection of human subjects in research are available from the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202-4331, telephone: (202) 245-8090, and on the U.S. Department of Education's Protection of Human Subjects in Research Web Site:  
<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocfo/humansub.html>*

NOTE: The **State Applicant Identifier** on the SF-424 is for State Use only. Please complete it on the SF-424 in the upper right corner of the form (if applicable).

# Instructions for ED 524

## General Instructions

This form is used to apply to individual U.S. Department of Education (ED) discretionary grant programs. Unless directed otherwise, provide the same budget information for each year of the multi-year funding request. Pay attention to applicable program specific instructions, if attached. You may access the Education Department General Administrative Regulations, 34 CFR 74 – 86 and 97-99, on ED's website at:

<http://www.ed.gov/policy/fund/reg/edgarReg/edgar.html>

**You must consult with your Business Office prior to submitting this form.**

## Section A - Budget Summary U.S. Department of Education Funds

All applicants must complete Section A and provide a break-down by the applicable budget categories shown in lines 1-11.

Lines 1-11, columns (a)-(e): For each project year for which funding is requested, show the total amount requested for each applicable budget category.

Lines 1-11, column (f): Show the multi-year total for each budget category. If funding is requested for only one project year, leave this column blank.

Line 12, columns (a)-(e): Show the total budget request for each project year for which funding is requested.

Line 12, column (f): Show the total amount requested for all project years. If funding is requested for only one year, leave this space blank.

**Indirect Cost Information:** If you are requesting reimbursement for indirect costs on line 10, this information is to be completed by your Business Office. (1): Indicate whether or not your organization has an Indirect Cost Rate Agreement that was approved by the Federal government.

If you checked "no," ED generally will authorize grantees to use a temporary rate of 10 percent of budgeted salaries and wages subject to the following limitations:

(a) The grantee must submit an indirect cost proposal to its cognizant agency within 90 days after ED issues a grant award notification; and

(b) If after the 90-day period, the grantee has not submitted an indirect cost proposal to its cognizant agency, the grantee may not charge its grant for indirect costs until it has negotiated an indirect cost rate agreement with its cognizant agency.

(2): If you checked "yes" in (1), indicate in (2) the beginning and ending dates covered by the Indirect Cost Rate Agreement. In addition, indicate whether ED, another Federal agency (Other) or State agency issued the approved agreement. If you check "Other," specify the name of the Federal or other agency that issued the approved agreement.

(3): If you are applying for a grant under a Restricted Rate Program (34 CFR 75.563 or 76.563), indicate whether you are using a restricted indirect cost rate that is included on your approved Indirect

Cost Rate Agreement or whether you are using a restricted indirect cost rate that complies with 34 CFR 76.564(c)(2). Note: State or Local government agencies may not use the provision for a restricted indirect cost rate specified in 34 CFR 76.564(c)(2). Check only one response. Leave blank, if this item is not applicable.

## Section B - Budget Summary Non-Federal Funds

If you are required to provide or volunteer to provide cost-sharing or matching funds or other non-Federal resources to the project, these should be shown for each applicable budget category on lines 1-11 of Section B.

Lines 1-11, columns (a)-(e): For each project year, for which matching funds or other contributions are provided, show the total contribution for each applicable budget category.

Lines 1-11, column (f): Show the multi-year total for each budget category. If non-Federal contributions are provided for only one year, leave this column blank.

Line 12, columns (a)-(e): Show the total matching or other contribution for each project year.

Line 12, column (f): Show the total amount to be contributed for all years of the multi-year project. If non-Federal contributions are provided for only one year, leave this space blank.

## Section C - Budget Narrative [Attach separate sheet(s)] Pay attention to applicable program specific instructions, if attached.

1. Provide an itemized budget breakdown, and justification by project year, for each budget category listed in Sections A and B. For grant projects that will be divided into two or more separately budgeted major activities or sub-projects, show for each budget category of a project year the breakdown of the specific expenses attributable to each sub-project or activity.
2. For non-Federal funds or resources listed in Section B that are used to meet a cost-sharing or matching requirement or provided as a voluntary cost-sharing or matching commitment, you must include:

- a. The specific costs or contributions by budget category;
- b. The source of the costs or contributions; and
- c. In the case of third-party in-kind contributions, a description of how the value was determined for the donated or contributed goods or services.

[Please review ED's general cost sharing and matching regulations, which include specific limitations, in 34 CFR 74.23, applicable to non-governmental entities, and 80.24, applicable to governments, and the applicable Office of Management and Budget (OMB) cost principles for your entity type regarding donations, capital assets, depreciation and use allowances. OMB

cost principle circulars are available on OMB's website at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/index.html>

3. If applicable to this program, provide the rate and base on which fringe benefits are calculated.
4. If you are requesting reimbursement for indirect costs on line 10, this information is to be completed by your Business Office. Specify the estimated amount of the base to which the indirect cost rate is applied and the total indirect expense. Depending on the grant program to which you are applying and/or your approved Indirect Cost Rate Agreement, some direct cost budget categories in your grant application budget may not be included in the base and multiplied by your indirect cost rate. For example, you must multiply the indirect cost rates of "Training grants" (34 CFR 75.562) and grants under programs with "Supplement not Supplant" requirements ("Restricted Rate" programs) by a "modified total direct cost" (MTDC) base (34 CFR 75.563 or 76.563). Please indicate which costs are included and which costs are excluded from the base to which the indirect cost rate is applied.

When calculating indirect costs (line 10) for "Training grants" or grants under "Restricted Rate" programs, you must refer to the information and examples on ED's website at: <http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/appforms/appforms.html>.

You may also contact (202) 377-3838 for additional information regarding calculating indirect cost rates or general indirect cost rate information.

5. Provide other explanations or comments you deem necessary.

## **Paperwork Burden Statement**

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is **1894-0008**. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to vary from 13 to 22 hours per response, with an average of 17.5 hours per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data sources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202-4537. If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form, write directly to (insert program office), U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202.

## Additional Indirect Cost Information and Example for Grants under Restricted Rate Programs

If you are applying for a grant from the U.S. Department of Education (ED) under a Restricted Rate Program that is subject to a statutory “supplement not supplant” restriction, you are required to use a restricted indirect cost rate. See the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR), 34 CFR 75.563 [discretionary grants] at <http://www.ed.gov/policy/fund/reg/edgarReg/edlite-part75e.html> or 34 CFR 76.563 [formula grants] at <http://www.ed.gov/policy/fund/reg/edgarReg/edlite-part76f.html>, as applicable, and 34 CFR 76.564 through 76.569 at <http://www.ed.gov/policy/fund/reg/edgarReg/edlite-part76f.html>.

Restricted rates for State Educational Agencies (SEA) are included on the SEA’s negotiated indirect cost rate agreement. Restricted rates for Local Educational Agencies are provided by the SEA, using a method approved by ED. The restricted rate requirements also apply to any subgrants from the prime recipient.

All applicants must use the restricted rate included on their negotiated indirect cost rate agreement. Applicants for discretionary grants that are not a State or Local government and do not have a negotiated restricted rate, may use the 8% rate described at §76.564(c)(2). If an applicant’s calculated restricted rate is less than 8%, the lower rate must be used for the application’s budget. The 8% rate in §76.564(c)(2) must also be multiplied by the modified total direct cost base described in §76.569.

For grants under Restricted Rate Programs, § 76.569 requires that grantees multiply their restricted indirect cost rate by:

“Total direct costs of the grant minus capital outlays, subgrants, and other distorting or unallowable items as specified in the grantee's indirect cost rate agreement.”

Commonly, such a procedure is referred to as multiplying by a modified total direct cost base.

Below is a simplified example for calculating indirect costs for a Restricted Rate program using budget categories from the ED 524 form, Budget Information – Non-Construction Programs. The ED 524 and Instructions can be found at: <http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/appforms/appforms.html>

For the purposes of this example, a 6% restricted rate from a negotiated indirect cost rate agreement is used to calculate indirect costs.

1. Personnel	150,000
2. Fringe Benefits	50,000
3. Travel	10,000
4. Equipment	5,400
5. Supplies	600
6. Contractual	3,700
7. Construction	-
8. Other (tuition)	72,000
9. Total Direct Costs	<u>291,700</u>

### Calculate Modified Total Direct Cost Base

Total Direct Costs 291,700

Less:

Equipment 5,400

Tuition 72,000

77,400

Modified Total Direct Cost Base:	214,300
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Multiply \$214,300 by 6% restricted rate: 12,858

10. Indirect Costs (using 6% restricted rate)	12,858
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11. Training Stipends	-
12. Total Costs	304,558

*Additional Indirect Cost Information and Example for Training Grants*

If you are applying for a discretionary grant that the U.S. Department of Education considers to be a “Training grant,” your indirect cost reimbursement is limited. See the Education Department General Administration Regulations (EDGAR), 34 CFR 75.562, Indirect cost rates for educational training projects at: <http://www.ed.gov/policy/fund/reg/edgarReg/edlite-part75e.html>

Indirect cost reimbursement on ED training grants is limited to the grantee’s actual indirect costs as determined by the grantee’s negotiated indirect cost rate agreement or 8% of a modified total direct cost base, **whichever is less**. Indirect costs in excess of the 8% limit may not be charged directly, used to satisfy matching or cost-sharing requirements, or charged to another Federal award.

For the purposes of calculating indirect costs for training grants, EDGAR, §75.562(c), defines a modified total direct cost base as:

**“total direct costs less stipends, tuition and related fees, and capital expenditures of \$5,000 or more.”**

Note: This limitation on indirect cost reimbursement for training grants does not apply to agencies of State or local governments, including federally recognized Indian tribal governments. However, the 8% limit applies to cost-type contracts under grants, if these contracts are for training as defined in EDGAR, §75.562(a).

Below is a simplified example for calculating indirect costs for a training grant using the budget categories from the ED 524 form, Budget Information – Non-construction Programs. The ED 524 and Instructions can be found at: <http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/appforms/appforms.html>

For the purposes of this example, 8% of a modified total direct cost base is used to calculate indirect costs.

1. Personnel	174,000
2. Fringe Benefits	50,000
3. Travel	10,000
4. Equipment	8,200
5. Supplies	920
6. Contractual	4,900
7. Construction	-
8. Other (Tuition)	5,400
9. Total Direct Costs	253,420

Calculate Modified Total Direct Cost Base

Total Direct Costs 253,420

Less:

Equipment 8,200

Tuition 5,400

13,600

Modified Total Direct Cost Base:	239,820
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Multiply \$239,820 by 8%: 19,186

10. Indirect Costs	19,186
11. Training Stipends	6,300
12. Total Costs	278,906

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR GRANT PERFORMANCE REPORT (ED 524B)

### PURPOSE

Recipients of multi-year discretionary grants must submit an annual performance report for each year funding has been approved in order to receive a continuation award. The annual performance report should demonstrate whether substantial progress has been made toward meeting the project objectives and the program performance measures. The information described in these instructions will provide the U.S. Department of Education (ED) with the information needed to determine whether recipients have demonstrated substantial progress. ED program offices may also require recipients of “forward funded” grants that are awarded funds for their entire multi-year project up-front in a single grant award to submit the Grant Performance Report (ED 524B) on an annual basis. In addition, ED program offices may also require recipients to use the ED 524B to submit their final performance reports. Performance reporting requirements are found in 34 CFR 74.51, 75.118, 75.253, 75.590 and 80.40 of the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR).

### GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

- Please read the attached “Dear Colleague Letter” from your program office carefully. It contains specific instructions for completing the ED 524B for your program.
- You must submit the ED 524B Cover Sheet, Executive Summary, and Project Status Chart. You may reference sections and page numbers of your approved application rather than repeating information.
- Please follow the appropriate instructions depending on whether you are submitting an annual performance report or a final performance report.
- If you are submitting a paper copy of the ED 524B, please submit one original and one copy. ED program offices will notify grant recipients of the due date for submission of annual performance reports; however, general guidelines are provided below in the instructions for ED 524B Cover Sheet, item 7. Reporting Period. Final performance reports are due 90 days after the expiration of the grant’s project period (performance period).

Note: For the purposes of this report, the term “project period” is used interchangeably with the term “performance period,” which is found on the Grant Award Notification (GAN).

- Many programs provide grantees with the option of completing and submitting the ED 524B online through e-Reports. Please follow instructions from your program office regarding the use of e-Reports for submitting your ED 524B.
- For those programs that operate under statutes or regulations that require additional or different reporting for performance or monitoring purposes, ED program offices will inform you when this additional or different reporting should be made.

### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE ED 524B COVER SHEET**

Complete the ED 524B Cover Sheet with the appropriate information. Instructions for items 1, 3 and 4 are included on the ED 524B Cover Sheet. Instructions for items 2 and 5 and items 6 through 12 are included in this instruction sheet.

#### **2. Grantee NCES ID Number**

##### **-- Annual and Final Performance Reports:**

Please enter the current National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) ID number of the grantee. Grantees that are State Educational Agencies (SEA) should enter their state’s FIPS (Federal Information Processing Standards) code in item 2. Item 2 only applies to grantees that are Institutions of Higher Education (IHE), SEAs, Local Educational Agencies (LEA), public libraries, and public, charter, and private elementary or secondary schools. Leave blank, if this item is not applicable.

Please go to the applicable website listed below to obtain the grantee’s NCES ID number or FIPS code. Depending on your organization type, this number will range from 2 to 12 numeric digits.

- IHEs (IPEDS ID); Public Libraries (Library ID); and Public, Charter and Private Schools (NCES School ID):  
<http://nces.ed.gov/globallocator>
- LEAs (NCES District ID): <http://nces.ed.gov/ccd/districtsearch/>
- SEAs (FIPS code): To obtain your state's FIPS code, please search on any public school district in your state at:  
<http://nces.ed.gov/ccd/districtsearch/>. **The FIPS code is the first two digits of the NCES District ID number for any public school district in a state.**

**Note:** Newly established organizations that do not have an NCES ID number yet should leave item 2 blank. However, once the organization's NCES ID number has been established, it must be entered on all future submissions of the ED 524B.

## 5. Grantee Address

### Instructions for Submitting Address Changes

#### -- Annual and Final Performance Reports:

If the address that is listed in Block 1 of your GAN has changed and you are submitting a paper copy of the ED 524B, either submit the new address in Section C (Additional Information) of the Project Status Chart or submit the change through e-Administration (annual performance reports only), the administrative action function of e-Grants.

If you are submitting the ED 524B electronically through e-Reports, you may update your address in e-Reports.

## 6. Project Director

#### -- Annual and Final Performance Reports:

Please enter the name, title, phone number, fax number and email address of your approved Project Director listed in Block 3 of your GAN. These fields are pre-populated and updatable in the e-Reports system. Please note, however, that changing the approved Project Director requires prior approval from ED and may only be requested for a grant whose performance period has not ended. See instructions under Section C (Additional Information) of the Project Status Chart for requesting a change to the Project Director with the ED 524B. You may also submit a request for a change in your Project Director through e-Administration.

## 7. Reporting Period Information

#### -- Annual Performance Reports:

**Due Date:** Annual performance reports are typically due seven to ten months after the start of the grant's current budget period. Please follow instructions from your program office regarding the specific due date of the annual performance report for your grant.

The reporting period for the annual performance report is from the start of the current budget period through 30 days before the due date of the report. The start date for your current budget period may be found in Block 6 of the GAN. Please note, however, that complete data on performance measures for the current budget period must be submitted to ED, either with this report or as soon as they are available, but no later than the final due date specified by your ED program office. Please see instructions for items 11a. and 11b. of the ED 524B Cover Sheet and Section A (Project Objectives Information and Related Performance Measures Data) of the Project Status Chart for specific reporting requirements for performance measures data.

**-- Final Performance Reports:**

**Due Date:** Final performance reports are due 90 days after the expiration of the grant's project period. If you receive a no-cost time extension from ED for this grant, the final performance report is due 90 days after the revised project period end date. Program offices may also request an annual performance report that covers the original final budget period from grantees that receive no-cost time extensions.

Please enter the start and end date for the final budget period of your grant from Block 6 of the GAN. The reporting period for your final performance report covers the entire final budget period of the project, except for the information in the Executive Summary and Section C (Additional Information) of the Project Status Chart, which covers the entire project period (performance period) of the project.

**8. Budget Expenditures [Also see Section B (Budget Information) of the Project Status Chart]**

The budget expenditure information requested in items 8a. – 8c. must be completed by your Business Office.

**Note:**

**Budget Expenditures:** For the purposes of this report, the term budget expenditures means allowable grant obligations incurred during the periods specified below. (See EDGAR, 34 CFR 74.2; 75.703; 75.707; and 80.3, as applicable.)

For budget expenditures made with Federal grant funds, you must provide an explanation in Section B (Budget Information) of the Project Status Chart, if you have not drawn down funds from ED's G5 System to pay for these budget expenditures.

**Non-Federal Funds (Match/Cost Share):** If you are required to provide non-Federal funds or resources for this grant because the funding program has a statutory (legislative) matching or cost sharing requirement or you voluntarily committed to providing non-Federal funds or resources in your approved grant application, you must complete the "Non-Federal Funds (Match/Cost Share)" column in items 8a. – 8c., as applicable. (You are encouraged to review the following information regarding allowable cost sharing/matching contributions: the funding program's statute and regulations (if any); ED's general cost sharing and matching regulations, which include specific limitations, in 34 CFR 74.23, applicable to non-governmental entities, and 80.24, applicable to governments; and the applicable Office of Management and Budget (OMB) cost principles for your entity type regarding donations, capital assets, depreciation and use allowances. OMB cost principle circulars are available on OMB's website at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/index.html>.)

**--Annual Performance Reports:**

- Report your actual budget expenditures for the *entire previous budget period* in item 8a. Please separate expenditures into Federal grant funds and non-Federal funds (match/cost-share) expended for the project during the entire previous budget period.

Note: If you are reporting on the first budget period of the project, leave item 8a. blank.

- Report your actual budget expenditures for the *current budget period to date* (i.e., through 30 days before the due date of this report) in item 8b. Please separate expenditures into Federal grant funds and non-Federal funds (match/cost-share) expended for the project during the current budget period to date.

**--Final Performance Reports:**

- Report your actual budget expenditures for the *entire previous budget period* in item 8a. Please separate expenditures into Federal grant funds and non-Federal funds (match/cost-share) expended for the project during the entire previous budget period.
- Report your actual budget expenditures for the *entire final budget period* in item 8b. Please separate expenditures into Federal grant funds and non-Federal funds (match/cost-share) expended for the project during the entire final budget period.
- Report your actual budget expenditures for the *entire project period (performance period)* in item 8c. Please separate expenditures into Federal grant funds and non-Federal funds (match/cost-share) expended for the project during the entire project period. Your project period (performance period) start and end dates are found in Block 6 of the GAN.

## 9. Indirect Cost Information

The indirect cost information requested in Items 9a. – 9d. must be completed by your Business Office.

### --Annual and Final Performance Reports:

- Item 9a -- Please check “yes” or “no” in item 9a. to indicate whether or not you are claiming indirect costs under this grant.
- Item 9b. -- If you checked “yes” in item 9a., please indicate in item 9b. whether or not your organization has an Indirect Cost Rate Agreement that was approved by the Federal government.
- Item 9c. -- If you checked “yes” in item 9b., please indicate in item 9c. the beginning and ending dates covered by the Indirect Cost Rate Agreement. In addition, please indicate whether ED or another Federal agency (Other) issued the approved agreement. If you check “Other,” please specify the name of the Federal agency that issued the approved agreement. *For final performance reports only*, check the appropriate box to indicate the type of indirect cost rate that you have – Provisional, Final, or Other. If you check “Other,” please specify the type of indirect cost rate.
- Item 9d. – For grants under Restricted Rate Programs (EDGAR, 34 CFR 75.563), please indicate whether you are using a restricted indirect cost rate that is included on your approved Indirect Cost Rate Agreement or whether you are using a restricted indirect cost rate that complies with 34 CFR 76.564(c)(2). Note: State or Local government agencies may not use the provision for a restricted indirect cost rate specified in EDGAR, 34 CFR 76.564(c)(2). Check only one response. Leave blank, if this item is not applicable.

## 10. Human Subjects (Annual Institutional Review Board (IRB) Certification)

### --Annual Performance Reports Only:

Annual IRB certification is required if Attachment HS1, Continuing IRB Reviews, was attached to the GAN.

Check “yes” if annual IRB certification is required and attached to the ED 524B as instructed in Attachment HS1. Check “no” if annual IRB Certification is required by Attachment HS1, but is not attached to the ED 524B. Please indicate the reason why the IRB certification is not attached (e.g., the research has been completed) under Section C (Additional Information) of the Project Status Chart. Check “N/A” if annual IRB certification does not apply to your grant (i.e., no human subjects research is being conducted under this grant or Attachment HSI was not attached to the GAN.)

## 11. Performance Measures Status

### --Annual Performance Reports:

Please check “yes” or “no” in item 11a. to indicate whether *complete* data (i.e., all of the data that you anticipate will be collected) on performance measures for the current budget period are included in this report in Section A of the Project Status Chart. If no, please indicate in item 11b. the date when the information will be available and submitted to ED. Complete data must be submitted for any performance measures established by ED for the grant program (included in the attached “Dear Colleague Letter”) and for any project specific performance measures that were included in your approved application.

If *complete* data on performance measures for the entire current budget period have not been obtained when

you submit the ED 524B, please submit *available* data for the budget period to date with this report, unless instructed otherwise by your program office. *Complete performance measures data for the current budget period should be submitted by the date you indicated in item 11b.*

Note: Your program office will inform you of the *final date* by which performance measures data must be submitted to the Department for this program.

#### **--Final Performance Reports:**

You must check “yes” in item 11a. Complete data on performance measures for the final budget period *must* be submitted with the final performance report in Section A of the Project Status Chart. Leave item 11b. blank.

Complete data *must* be submitted for any performance measures established by ED for the grant program (included in the attached “Dear Colleague Letter”) and for any project-specific performance measures that were included in your approved grant application.

## **12. Certification**

#### **--Annual and Final Performance Reports:**

The grantee’s authorized representative must sign the certification for the ED 524B. If the grantee has any known internal control weaknesses concerning data quality (as disclosed through audits or other reviews), this information must be disclosed under Section C (Additional Information) of the Project Status Chart as well as the remedies taken to ensure the accuracy, reliability, and completeness of the data.

## **INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

#### **--Annual and Final Performance Reports:**

Provide a one to two page Executive Summary for *annual performance reports* and a two to three page Executive Summary for *final performance reports*. Provide highlights of the project's goals, the extent to which the expected outcomes and performance measures were achieved, and what contributions the project has made to research, knowledge, practice, and/or policy. Include the population served, if appropriate.

Note: The Executive Summary for *final performance reports* covers the *entire project period*.

## **INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PROJECT STATUS CHART**

### **General Instructions for Section A -- Project Objectives Information and Related Performance Measures Data**

#### **-- Annual and Final Performance Reports:**

In your approved grant application, you established project objectives stating what you hope to achieve with your funded grant project. Generally, one or more performance measures were also established for each project objective that serve to demonstrate whether you have met or are making progress towards meeting each project objective. In addition to project-specific performance measures that you may have established in your approved grant application, performance measures may have been established by ED for the grant program [included in the attached “Dear Colleague Letter”] that you are required to report on.

In Section A of the Project Status Chart, you will report on the results to date of your project evaluation as required under EDGAR, 34 CFR 75.590. According to the instructions below, for each project objective included in your approved grant

application, provide quantitative and/or qualitative data for each associated performance measure and a description of preliminary findings or outcomes that demonstrate that you have met or are making progress towards meeting the performance measure. You will also explain how your data on your performance measures demonstrate that you have met or are making progress towards meeting each project objective.

**Note:** Complete data *must* be submitted for any performance measures established by ED for the grant program (included in the attached “Dear Colleague Letter”) and for any project-specific performance measures that were included in your approved grant application

**For Annual Performance Reports:** If *complete* data on performance measures for the entire current budget period have not been obtained when you submit the ED 524B, please submit *available* data for the budget period to date with this report, unless instructed otherwise by your program office. *Complete performance measures data for the current budget period should be submitted by the date you indicated in item 11b on the ED 524B Cover Sheet.*

Your program office will inform you of the *final date* by which performance measures data must be submitted to the Department for this program.

**For Final Performance Reports:** Complete data on performance measures for the final budget period *must* be submitted with the final performance report.

*For final performance reports*, the information in Section A of the Project Status Chart covers the final budget period of the grant. Additional questions for final performance reports covering the entire project period are found in the instructions for Section C of the Project Status Chart.

## **Instructions for Section A**

- **Project Objective:**

Enter each project objective that is included in your approved grant application. Only one project objective should be entered per row. Project objectives should be numbered sequentially, i.e., 1., 2., 3., etc.

- **Update Box**

*If instructed by your program office in the attached “Dear Colleague Letter,”* please provide an update on the status of your project objectives for any period of time that you did not report on in your previous annual performance report.

Check the “Update Box” next to each project objective for which you are providing an update. Do not check the “Update Box” if you are reporting on a project objective for the current reporting period. If you are providing a status update on your project objectives for the previous budget period and reporting on those same objectives for the current reporting period, please use separate pages (Section A) to separate previous and current information.

Do not combine information for the previous budget period and for the current reporting period on the same page.

Example: Last year’s annual performance report covered 8 months of the previous budget period. The program office requests that you report on the status of your project objectives for the last 4 months of the previous budget period in this annual performance report.

- **Performance Measure:**

For each project objective, enter each associated performance measure. There may be multiple performance measures associated with each project objective. Enter only one performance measure per row. Each performance measure that is associated with a particular project objective should be labeled using an alpha indicator. Example: The first performance measure associated with project objective “1” should be labeled “1.a.,” the second performance measure for project objective “1” should be labeled “1.b.,” etc.

- **Measure Type:**

For each performance measure you are reporting on, enter the type of performance measure. Enter one (1) of the following measure types: **GPRA; PROGRAM; or PROJECT.**

The specific measures established by ED for the grant program that you are required to report on are included in the attached “Dear Colleague Letter.” The measure type is also specified.

There are two types of measures that ED may have established for the grant program:

1. **GPRA:** Measures established for reporting to Congress under the Government Performance and Results Act; and
2. **PROGRAM:** Measures established by the program office for the particular grant competition.

In addition, report on any project-specific performance measures (**PROJECT**) that you, the grantee, established in your approved grant application to meet your project objectives.

- **Quantitative Data:**

**Target and Actual Performance Data**

Provide the target you established for meeting each performance measure and provide actual performance data demonstrating progress towards meeting or exceeding this target. Only quantitative (numeric) data should be entered in the Target and Actual Performance Data boxes. If ED has approved revised targets for a performance measure, the revised target should be used when entering data.

The Target and Actual Performance Data boxes are each divided into three columns: **Raw Number; Ratio; and Percentage (%)**.

For performance measures that are stated in terms of a single number (e.g., the number of workshops that will be conducted or the number of students that will be served), the target and actual performance data should be reported as a single number under the **Raw Number column** (e.g., **10** workshops or **80** students). Please leave the **Ratio and Percentage (%) columns** blank.

For performance measures that are stated in terms of a percentage (e.g., percentage of students that attain proficiency), complete both the **Ratio column** and the **Percentage (%) column**. Please leave the **Raw Number column** blank.

In the **Ratio column** (e.g., **80/100**), the numerator represents the numerical target (e.g., the number of students that are expected to attain proficiency) or actual performance data (e.g., the number of students that attained proficiency), and the denominator represents the universe (e.g., all students served). Please enter the corresponding percentage (e.g., **80%**) in the **Percentage (%) column**.

If the collection of quantitative data is not appropriate for a particular performance measure, please leave the Target and Actual Performance Data boxes blank and provide an explanation and any relevant qualitative data for the performance measure in the block entitled, **Explanation of Progress**.

Note: If you are using weighted data, please indicate how the data are weighted in the block entitled, **Explanation of Progress**.

**Special instructions for grants in their first budget period:** If baseline data for a performance measure were not included in your approved application and targets were not set for the first budget period, then enter either the number **999** under the **Raw Number column** or the ratio **999/999** under the **Ratio column** of the **Target box**, depending on how your data will be reported in the future. The **999** or **999/999** indicates that baseline data are being collected on the measure during the first budget period and targets have not yet been set. Unless otherwise instructed by your program office in the attached "Dear Colleague Letter," report baseline data collected during the first budget period under either the **Raw Number column** or the **Ratio and Percentage (%) columns** of the **Actual Performance Data box**, as appropriate. After baseline data have been collected during the first budget period, grantees are expected to set targets for the second and any subsequent budget periods and report actual performance data in their annual performance reports.

- **Explanation of Progress (Includes Qualitative Data and Data Collection Information):**

1. For each project objective and associated performance measures, indicate what data (quantitative and/or qualitative) were collected and when they were collected, the evaluation methods that were used, and how the data were analyzed. Clearly identify and explain any deviations from your approved evaluation plan, including changes in design or methodology, or the individual or organization conducting the evaluation.

2. Based on your data, provide a description of preliminary findings or outcomes, including information to show whether you are making progress towards meeting each performance measure. Further, indicate how your performance measures data show that you have met or are making progress towards meeting the stated project objective. In your discussion, provide a brief description of your activities and accomplishments for the reporting period that are related to each project objective.
3. If expected data were not attained, expected progress was not made toward meeting a performance measure or project objective, or a planned activity was not conducted as scheduled, provide an explanation. Include a description of the steps and schedules for addressing the problem(s) or issue(s).
4. Indicate how you used your data and information from your evaluation to monitor the progress of your grant, and if needed, to make improvements to your original project plan (e.g., project activities and milestones) which are consistent with your approved objectives and scope of work.

## **Instructions for Section B – Budget Information**

### **-- Annual and Final Performance Reports:**

- Report budget expenditure data in items 8a. – 8c. of the ED 524B Cover Sheet, as applicable. Please follow the instructions for completing items 8a. – 8c. included in this instruction sheet.
- For budget expenditures made with Federal grant funds, you must provide an explanation if funds have not been drawn down from the G5 System to pay for the budget expenditure amounts reported in items 8a. – 8c of the ED 524B Cover Sheet.
- Provide an explanation if you *did not* expend funds at the expected rate during the reporting period.
- Describe any significant changes to your budget resulting from modification of project activities.
- Describe any changes to your budget that affected your ability to achieve your approved project activities and/or project objectives.

### **-- Annual Performance Reports Only:**

- Do you expect to have any unexpended funds at the end of the current budget period? If you do, explain why, provide an estimate, and indicate how you plan to use the unexpended funds (carryover) in the next budget period.
- Describe any anticipated changes in your budget for the **next** budget period that require prior approval from the Department (see EDGAR, 34 CFR 74.25 and 80.30, as applicable).

## **Instructions for Section C – Additional Information**

### **-- Annual Performance Reports Only:**

- If applicable, please provide a list of current partners on your grant and indicate if any partners changed during the reporting period. Please indicate if you anticipate any change in partners during the next budget period. If any of your partners changed during the reporting period, please describe whether this impacted your ability to achieve your approved project objectives and/or project activities.
- *If instructed by your program office*, please report on any statutory reporting requirements for this grant program.
- Describe any changes that you wish to make in the grant's activities for the next budget period that are consistent with the scope and objectives of your approved application.

- If you are requesting changes to the approved Project Director listed in Block 3 of your GAN and/or to other approved key personnel listed in Block 4 with a proposed effective date during the remainder of the current budget period or the next budget period, please indicate the name, title and percentage of time of the requested key personnel. Please indicate whether the proposed Project Director or other key personnel change would be effective during the current or next budget period. Additionally, please attach a resume or curriculum vitae for the proposed key personnel when you submit your performance report.

Note: Do not report on any key personnel changes that were already made during the current or previous budget period(s). Departmental approval must be requested and received prior to making key personnel changes.

- Provide any other appropriate information about the status of your project including any unanticipated outcomes or benefits from your project.

**-- Final Performance Reports Only:**

**(This information covers the entire project period.)**

**Note: All grantees submitting a final performance report must answer question 1. The attached “Dear Colleague Letter” specifies any additional questions that you must answer from the list below, if any.**

1. Utilizing your evaluation results, draw conclusions about the success of the project and its impact. Describe any unanticipated outcomes or benefits from your project and any barriers that you may have encountered.
2. What would you recommend as advice to other educators that are interested in your project? How did your original ideas change as a result of conducting the project?
3. If applicable, describe your plans for continuing the project (sustainability; capacity building) and/or disseminating the project results.
4. Report on any statutory reporting requirements for this grant program.